Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Canceled)

Claim 2. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 ~~1~~, wherein ~~the step of detecting whether~~ determining that the scanned item has an active electronic article surveillance tag includes ~~the step of~~ utilizing an electronic article surveillance detector.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the step of~~ utilizing an electronic article surveillance detector, includes utilizing an ~~the~~ electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with the scanner.

Claim 4. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 ~~1~~, further comprising ~~the step of~~ determining whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated after the step of allowing deactivation of the active electronic article surveillance tag ~~after detecting that the item includes the electronic article surveillance tag~~.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein ~~the step~~ of determining whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated includes the step of utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the step~~ of utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector, includes ~~the step of~~ utilizing a ~~the~~ second electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with a bagwell of a ~~the~~ self checkout terminal.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~the step of~~ utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector, includes ~~the step of~~ utilizing a ~~the~~ second electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with a security scale of a ~~the~~ self checkout terminal.

Claims 8-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A method of operating a checkout terminal The ~~method of claim 21, further~~ comprising:

scanning an item with a scanner;

determining that the scanned item has an electronic article surveillance tag;

allowing, after the step of determining, deactivation of the electronic article with an active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator;

disabling the scanner from scanning other items based upon the step of determining; and

activating an indicia identifying the location of the ~~an~~ active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator~~; and wherein the step of allowing further comprises allowing deactivation of the electronic article surveillance tag with an active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator~~.

Claim 23. (currently amended) The method of claim 26 ~~21~~, wherein the determining comprises determining that the item has an electronic article surveillance tag with a first electronic article surveillance tag detector.

Claim 24. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

verifying, with a second electronic article surveillance tag detector, that the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 25. (currently amended) The method of claim 26 ~~21~~, wherein the disabling comprises disabling the scanner from scanning other items until the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 26. (currently amended) A method of operating a checkout terminal The ~~method of claim 21, further~~ comprising:

scanning an item with a scanner;

determining that the scanned item has an electronic article surveillance tag;

allowing, after the step of determining, deactivation of the electronic article;

disabling the scanner from scanning other items based upon the step of determining; and

indicating that an intervention is needed if the electronic article surveillance tag has not been deactivated within a predetermined time of allowing the deactivation.

Claim 27. (currently amended) A method of operating a checkout terminal The ~~method of claim 21, further~~ comprising:

scanning an item with a scanner;

determining that the scanned item has an electronic article surveillance tag;

allowing, after the step of determining, deactivation of the electronic article;

disabling the scanner from scanning other items based upon the step of determining; and

detecting the electronic article surveillance tag with an electronic article surveillance tag detector located in a bagging area of the terminal; and

indicating that an intervention is needed if the electronic article surveillance tag has not been deactivated within a predetermined time of allowing the deactivation.

Claim 28. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the determining comprises determining that the item has an electronic article surveillance tag with a first electronic article surveillance tag detector.

Claim 29. (new) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

verifying, with a second electronic article surveillance tag detector, that the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 30. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the disabling comprises disabling the scanner from scanning other items until the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 31. (new) A self checkout comprising:

a processor;

a scanner in communication with the processor;

an electronic article surveillance detector in communication with the processor;

an electronic article surveillance deactivator; and

a memory in communication with the processor and storing program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to: (a) allow scanning of an item for purchase via the scanner, (b) determine, after successful scanning of the item, whether the item has an active electronic article surveillance tag via the electronic article surveillance detector, (c) allow deactivation of the active electronic article surveillance tag after determining that the item includes an electronic article surveillance tag, and (d) generate an indication that an intervention is needed if the electronic article surveillance tag has not been deactivated within a predetermined time of allowing the deactivation.

Claim 32. (new) The self checkout of claim 31, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector is associated with the scanner.

Claim 33. (new) The self checkout of claim 31, further comprising a second electronic article surveillance detector, and the memory has further program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to determine via the second

article surveillance detector whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated by the electronic article surveillance deactivator.

Claim 34. (new) The self checkout of claim 33, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a bagwell of the self checkout.

Claim 35. (new) The self checkout of claim 33, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a security scale of the self checkout.

Claim 36. (new) The self checkout of claim 31, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector comprises a coil and electronic circuitry/logic, and the memory has further program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to cause the electronic circuitry/logic obtain a signal from the coil indicative of the active electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 37. (new) The self checkout of claim 36, wherein the coil and electronic circuitry/logic are modular.